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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,486	03/01/2004	Shigehiko Suzuki	1614.1387	9025

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EXAMINER

MOFIZ, APU M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2165

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BEA, Product Family Overview, July 02, 2001, pages 1-24 and hereinafter referred to as BEA.

As to claims 1,9,17,25 and 33, BEA teaches an information reference apparatus comprising: a reference information storage part storing predetermined reference information (i.e., a user profile on a Personalization server) (page 14); a reference range defining information storage part storing predetermined reference range defining information (i.e., in a property set for an individual user or a user group, where properties can be set to define a valid range e.g., to retrieve content based on the valid range from a content provider e.g., a database) (page 15; page 17); and a reference range defining part referring to the reference range defining information stored for a user by said reference range defining information storage part and defining a range of the reference information stored by said reference information storage part, in which range the reference information is available for the user to refer to (i.e., the reference ranges are defined and stored at the WebLogic Personalization Server) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 2, 10, 18, 26 and 34, BEA teaches a contribution receiving part receiving a contribution from a user and storing the contribution in said reference information storage part (i.e., a user can configure information in user profile, which allows the personalized server to retrieve personalized contents from content provider.) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 3, 11, 19, 27 and 35, BEA teaches an authenticating part allowing a user to refer to the reference information after an authentication of the user is normally finished (i.e., the information that distinguishes one user/person from another user/person in the personalized server) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 4, 12, 20, 28 and 36, BEA teaches a search range defining part responsive to a search request from a user's apparatus for referring to the reference range defining information from said reference range defining information storage part, and thereby defining a range of the reference information, in which range the reference information is available for the search (pages 1-24).

As to claims 5, 13, 21, 29 and 37, BEA teaches an URL management part registering an URL for each user, and being responsive to an URL reference request sent from a user's apparatus via a communication network for returning to the apparatus, information of URL previously registered for the relevant user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 7,15,23,31 and 39, BEA teaches a referred information managing part storing information for determining whether or not an item of the reference information has been already referred to by a specific user, and enabling said specific user to determine that the item of reference information has been already referred to by himself or herself with a use of the thus-stored information, upon receiving a reference request from the specific user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 8,16,24,32 and 40, BEA teaches that the reference range defining information comprises information designating, for each item of the reference information, a range of users who are allowed to refer thereto, a determination as to whether or not each item of the reference information is available for a particular user being made by determining whether or not an attribute set for the particular user is included in said range of users designated for said item of the reference information (pages 1-24).

Art Unit: 2165

Points of Contact

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Apu M. Mofiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-4080. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached at (571) 272-4146. The fax numbers for the group is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.


Arzu M. Mofiz

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August 08, 2006